

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
SIG-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 AGRE-00
AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07
TRSE-00 CEA-01 OES-07 IGA-02 XMB-02 /147 R

DRAFTED BY IO:CRFRANK/AD
APPROVED BY IO:CWMAYNES
EB:RHORMATS
TREASURY:RPELIKAN
L/UNA:SBOND (SUBS)
EB/ODF/IFD:AWATSON
E:SCANNER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ANTANARIVO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
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AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 028091

USEEC AND USOECD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UN, EGEN

SUBJECT: UN OVERVIEW: FIRST MEETING, FEBRUARY 13-17

REF: (A) STATE 16347; (B) STATE 15279; (C) STATE 17255
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(NOTAL); (D) STATE 17268

1. THE 32ND UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ESTABLISHED A NEW COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO OVERVIEW THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE AFTER THE PARIS CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION. THE INITIAL SESSION OF THIS COMMITTEE WILL MEET THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 13 TO CONSIDER THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND THE AGENDA FOR THE OVERVIEW.

2. ACTION POSTS: YOU SHOULD APPROACH GOVERNMENT URGENTLY AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL TO CONVEY US VIEWS BELOW. PLEASE DO NOT CONFINE YOUR APPROACH TO FOREIGN MINISTRY IN CASES WHERE ANOTHER MINISTRY HAS A SIGNIFICANT VOICE IN THIS MATTER. POSTS SHOULD INDICATE THAT THESE VIEWS ARE PRELIMINARY AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE REACTIONS FROM OTHERS. IN PRESENTING VIEWS BELOW, POSTS SHOULD ALSO ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE THE LIKELY REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTS TO THE FIRST MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE. YOU SHOULD PARTICULARLY STRESS USG HOPE THAT

REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE POLICY LEVEL OFFICIALS FROM CAPITALS. YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT WILLINGNESS TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES FROM CAPITALS EVEN TO ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW BODY WILL BE TAKEN BY THE US AS INDICATION OF THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THE OVERVIEW BODY IS BEING APPROACHED BY OTHER COUNTRIES. THE US WILL BE REPRESENTED FROM WASHINGTON BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT

SECRETARIES HORMATS (EB) AND FRANK (IO) AT THE FIRST, ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION.

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THE PRIMARY US OBJECTIVE IS TO USE THE NEW UN BODY FOR SERIOUS DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC PROBLEMS FACING THE ENTIRE WORLD COMMUNITY WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; AND IDENTIFYING PROBLEM AREAS NOT BEING DEALT WITH IN ANY INTERNATIONAL FORUM WITH A VIEW TO RECOMMENDING AN APPROACH TO ADDRESSING THOSE PROBLEMS AS APPROPRIATE. WE ALSO SEE THIS BODY AS EXPANDING UNDERSTANDING AMONG DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF EACH OTHER'S PROBLEMS AND POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CONSTRAINTS AND AS A MEANS OF ENCOURAGING THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE.

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OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES TAKE A VARIETY OF VIEWS TOWARD THE NEW BODY. AT THE RECENT OECD/XCSS MEETING THERE WAS BROAD ENDORSEMENT THAT THE OVERVIEW SHOULD BE TREATED SERIOUSLY. THERE ARE CONCERNS, HOWEVER, THAT THE NEW COMMITTEE COULD LEAD TO RENEWED NORTH/SOUTH CONTENTION.

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7. STRATEGY:

A. OVERALL APPROACH:

THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT THE UN OVERVIEW SHOULD BE A SERIOUS EFFORT TO ACHIEVE BROAD UNDERSTANDING AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL OF THE VARIOUS REAL INTERESTS, CONCERNS, CONSTRAINTS AND PRIORITIES OF PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING A WIDE RANGE OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND POLICIES, AND MAKE MORE COUNTRIES REAL PARTICIPANTS IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY FORMULATION. WE INTEND TO BE REPRESENTED AT THE MEETINGS OF THE OVERVIEW BODY BY ECONOMIC POLICY OFFICIALS FROM WASHINGTON AT THE DEPUTY ASSISTANCE SECRETARY LEVEL FOR THE FIRST (ORGANIZATIONAL) MEETING AND AT AT LEAST THAT LEVEL FOR SUBSEQUENT (SUBSTANTIVE) MEETINGS. WE ENCOURAGE OTHER COUNTRIES TO SEND SIMILAR REPRESENTATIVES FROM CAPITALS, EVEN TO THE

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WE EXPECT THAT AT THE FIRST MEETING THE COMMITTEE WILL SELECT A CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN. THE NATIONALITY OF A CHAIRMAN IS LESS IMPORTANT THAN HIS QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN THE TYPE OF COMMITTEE WE HAVE IN MIND IN A FAIR AND EFFICIENT MANNER. CONSEQUENTLY, WE SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON OBTAINING A HIGH QUALITY CANDIDATE.

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C. MEETINGS:

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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0000

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 028091

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 028091 ACTION ABIDJAN ACCRA ALGIERS
ANTANARIVO BELGRADE BOGOTA BRASILIA BUENOS AIRES CARACAS DAR ES
SALAAM ISLAMABAD JAKARTA JIDDA KINGSTON KUALA LUMPUR KUWAIT LAGOS
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ROME STOCKHOLM THE HAGUE TOKYO WELLINGTON GENEVA FEB 2.

QUOTE Q O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 028091

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UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON ECONOMIC ISSUES INCLUDING THE OVERVIEW. REFTTEL B CONTAINS A COPY OF THE UN RESOLUTION ON OVERVIEW. POSTS MAY WANT TO DRAW ON THESE REFTTELS AS APPROPRIATE.

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D. SUBSTANTIVE AGENDA:

THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THAT THE AGENDA FOR THE FIRST SUBSTANTIVE MEETING ADDRESS RECENT PERFORMANCE OF THE WORLD ECONOMY, PARTICULARLY THE IMPACT THAT KEY REGIONS HAVE ON ONE ANOTHER WITH SPECIAL STRESS ON THE PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, GENERAL PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS AND KEY FACTORS IN ENSURING A SUSTAINED PERIOD OF GLOBAL PROSPERITY AND STABILITY, AN EQUITABLE WORLD ECONOMIC
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ORDER, AND RAPID GROWTH OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE UNITED STATES WOULD PROPOSE THAT DISCUSSION AT SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

(1) AN ANALYSIS OF THE ISSUES AND PROBLEMS THAT RELATE TO PROSPECTS FOR GROWTH OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY GENERALLY AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN PARTICULAR.

(2) A REVIEW OF AGREEMENTS REACHED, IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH AGREEMENTS, AND THE STATUS OF ON-GOING NEGOTIATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS, AND THE STEPS MOST REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINED LEVELS OF ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND FULL EMPLOYMENT.

(3) IN LIGHT OF THIS ANALYSIS AND REVIEW, A CONSIDERATION OF PRIORITIES AND DIRECTION FOR FUTURE WORK.

RELATING THESE TO THE MANDATE IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE OVERVIEW RESOLUTION (REF B), ITEM ONE ABOVE CORRESPONDS TO MANDATE D, ITEM TWO IS REFLECTIVE OF MANDATE A, AND ITEM THREE IS EQUIVALENT TO MANDATES B AND C, WHICH ARE INSEPARABLE IN OUR VIEW. ANY GIVEN SUBJECT SHOULD BE DEALT WITH IN THIS PROGRESSION.

AN ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK SHOULD BE USED FOR STRUCTURING THE DISCUSSIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, WE MIGHT CONSIDER STRUCTURING FUTURE WORK INTO TWO GROUPS OF TOPICS:

(1) SECTORAL ISSUES RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT AND THE GLOBAL ECONOMY--INCLUDING ISSUES RELATING TO FOOD, ENERGY, AND COMMODITIES.

(2) CROSS-SECTORAL ISSUES RELATING TO PROSPECTS FOR
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DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL ECONOMIC GROWTH--INCLUDING TRADE, INVESTMENT, FINANCE, AND AID.

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES IN BOTH GROUPINGS WOULD FOCUS ON INTERACTION AND HARMONIZATION OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICIES AND EFFECTS OF SUCH POLICIES ON

ECONOMIC GROWTH, PRICE STABILITY, MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME, AND THE MEETING OF BASIC HUMAN NEEDS, INCLUDING EMPLOYMENT.

IN EACH AREA, WE WOULD CONSIDER RECENT PROGRESS, ONGOING DISCUSSIONS, AND POSSIBLE FUTURE STEPS. SPECIFIC ITEMS OF INTEREST TO DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES COULD BE DISCUSSED UNDER EACH OF THESE SUBJECT AREAS. THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT OBJECT TO DISCUSSING ANY TOPIC A COUNTRY MIGHT WISH TO RAISE, PROVIDED IT CAN BE REASONABLY SUBSUMED UNDER THIS OR SOME OTHER BROAD ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK.

ON EACH OF THE TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION, THE US WILL PROPOSE THAT PAPERS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBER GOVERNMENTS OR BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT, ITS VARIOUS ORGANS, AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. THE BUREAU SHOULD HELP ENSURE ADEQUATE PREPARATION AND DOCUMENTATION FOR ALL MEETINGS OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE. . VANCE
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AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

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SELECT A CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN. THE NATIONALITY OF A CHAIRMAN IS LESS IMPORTANT THAN HIS QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN THE TYPE OF COMMITTEE WE HAVE IN MIND IN A FAIR AND EFFICIENT MANNER. CONSEQUENTLY, WE SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON OBTAINING A HIGH QUALITY CANDIDATE.

THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE WILLING TO SERVE AS CHAIRMAN OR ONE OF THE VICE-CHAIRMEN. THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COULD SERVE AS A

BUREAU WITH THE TRADITIONAL FUNCTION OF A UN BUREAU OPERATING WITHIN THE OUTLINES ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AT ITS FIRST MEETING.

C. MEETINGS:

THE MOST EFFECTIVE STRUCTURE FOR ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVE OF THE OVERVIEW BODY IS TO ARRANGE A LIMITED NUMBER OF MEETINGS OF SHORT DURATION (WE SUGGEST ONE OR TWO ANNUALLY). IT IS ONLY ON THIS BASIS THAT WE CAN EXPECT THE SERIOUS PARTICIPATION AND REPRESENTATION FROM CAPITALS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE OUR DESIRED OBJECTIVES. WE SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT THE MANDATE OF THE OVERVIEW MECHANISM EXTENDS ONLY UNTIL THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA IN 1980 OR APPROXIMATELY TWO AND ONE-HALF YEARS. IT WILL MEET INTERSESSIONALLY, THUS, CONSIDERING THE SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER SCHEDULE OF THE UNGA, IT COULD MEET ONLY DURING EIGHT MONTHS OF EACH YEAR. IT WOULD ALSO COMPETE FOR TIME AND ATTENTION OF SENIOR OFFICIALS WITH THE ECOSOC SESSIONS, THE MINISTERIAL TDB MEETING OF THE UNCTAD THIS MARCH, UNCTAD V IN 1979, AS WELL AS WORLD CONFERENCES SUCH AS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT IN 1979. THUS, THERE ARE LIKELY TO BE RELATIVELY FEW MEETINGS BEFORE THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA IN 1980.

D. SUBSTANTIVE AGENDA:

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THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THAT THE AGENDA FOR THE FIRST SUBSTANTIVE MEETING ADDRESS RECENT PERFORMANCE OF THE WORLD ECONOMY, PARTICULARLY THE IMPACT THAT KEY REGIONS HAVE ON ONE ANOTHER WITH SPECIAL STRESS ON THE PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, GENERAL PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS AND KEY FACTORS IN ENSURING A SUSTAINED PERIOD OF GLOBAL PROSPERITY AND STABILITY, AN EQUITABLE WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER, AND RAPID GROWTH OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE UNITED STATES WOULD PROPOSE THAT DISCUSSION AT SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

(1) AN ANALYSIS OF THE ISSUES AND PROBLEMS THAT RELATE TO PROSPECTS FOR GROWTH OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY GENERALLY AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN PARTICULAR.

(2) A REVIEW OF AGREEMENTS REACHED, IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH AGREEMENTS, AND THE STATUS OF ON-GOING NEGOTIATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS, AND THE STEPS MOST REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINED LEVELS OF ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND FULL EMPLOYMENT.

(3) IN LIGHT OF THIS ANALYSIS AND REVIEW, A CONSIDERATION OF PRIORITIES AND DIRECTION FOR FUTURE WORK.

RELATING THESE TO THE MANDATE IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE OVERVIEW RESOLUTION (REF B), ITEM ONE ABOVE CORRESPONDS TO MANDATE D, ITEM TWO IS REFLECTIVE OF MANDATE A, AND ITEM THREE IS EQUIVALENT TO MANDATES B AND C, WHICH ARE INSEPARABLE IN OUR VIEW. ANY GIVEN SUBJECT SHOULD BE DEALT WITH IN THIS PROGRESSION.

AN ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK SHOULD BE USED FOR STRUCTURING
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THE DISCUSSIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, WE MIGHT CONSIDER STRUCTURING FUTURE WORK INTO TWO GROUPS OF TOPICS:

(1) SECTORAL ISSUES RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT AND THE GLOBAL ECONOMY--INCLUDING ISSUES RELATING TO FOOD, ENERGY, AND COMMODITIES.

(2) CROSS-SECTORAL ISSUES RELATING TO PROSPECTS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL ECONOMIC GROWTH--INCLUDING TRADE, INVESTMENT, FINANCE, AND AID.

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES IN BOTH GROUPINGS WOULD FOCUS ON INTERACTION AND HARMONIZATION OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICIES AND EFFECTS OF SUCH POLICIES ON

ECONOMIC GROWTH, PRICE STABILITY, MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME, AND THE MEETING OF BASIC HUMAN NEEDS, INCLUDING EMPLOYMENT.

IN EACH AREA, WE WOULD CONSIDER RECENT PROGRESS, ONGOING DISCUSSIONS, AND POSSIBLE FUTURE STEPS. SPECIFIC ITEMS OF INTEREST TO DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES COULD BE DISCUSSED UNDER EACH OF THESE SUBJECT AREAS. THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT OBJECT TO DISCUSSING ANY TOPIC A COUNTRY MIGHT WISH TO RAISE, PROVIDED IT CAN BE REASONABLY SUBSUMED UNDER THIS OR SOME OTHER BROAD ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK.

ON EACH OF THE TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION, THE US WILL PROPOSE THAT PAPERS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBER GOVERNMENTS OR BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT, ITS VARIOUS ORGANS, AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. THE BUREAU SHOULD HELP ENSURE ADEQUATE PREPARATION AND DOCUMENTATION FOR ALL MEETINGS OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE. . VANCE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 sep 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE028091
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO:CRFRANK/AD
Enclosure: ALSO FOR USEEC AND USOECD
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780050-0534
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197802120/baaafbsf.tel
Line Count: 758
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 629ab5cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 14
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 16347; (B) STATE 15279; (C) STATE 17255
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3474755
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN OVERVIEW: FIRST MEETING, FEBRUARY 13-17
TAGS: PORG, EGEN, UN
To: ABIDJAN ACCRA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/629ab5cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014